

Approved For Release 2000/05/24 : CIA-RDP70-00058R000200090124-3

Brown and Dulles Both Hail Braden

Ex-CIA Chief Says His U.S. Services Were Top Grade

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Thomas W. Braden, controversial president of the State Board of Education, got strong backing from Gov. Brown and Allen W. Dulles Tuesday.

Dulles, former director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, commended Braden's work as an assistant director of the CIA.

Brown told his news conference, "It would be tragic to California if the chairman of the Board of Education who has done so much would not be confirmed by the Senate . . ."

Set for Thursday

The Senate Rules Committee is scheduled to consider Brown's reappointment of Braden to the board on Thursday. Opponents have claimed they have enough votes to block confirmation on the floor if the committee approves the appointment.

Braden announced Tuesday that he will appear at the hearing Thursday.

Sen. Jack Schrade (R-Del Mar) will oppose Senate confirmation of Braden at the hearing.

Braden said he is appearing at the invitation of Sen. Hugh M. Burris, chairman of the committee.

Norris Also to Appear

Confirmation of William A. Norris for appointment to the State Board will be heard at the same time. Schrade said he is not opposing Norris' confirmation. Norris announced that he will also appear at the hearing at the invitation of

Dulles, in a letter asked by Braden in response to what he called "shocking rumors" about him, had this to say:

"Dear Tom:

"I have been told that a rumor has been circulated to the general effect that your association with the Central Intelligence Agency was terminated for some reason other than your own volition.

Praises Work

" . . . I wish to assure you . . . that your services with the agency were of the highest value and importance . . .

"It was to my great regret . . . when you of your own volition for financial reasons . . . decided you would no longer serve with us.

" . . . You were sorely missed.

"While I have retired as director of CIA, I would be very glad to give the same reassurance to those who might wish to inquire of me."

Brown, asked what he planned to do if the appointment were not confirmed, said, "I refuse to consider any possibility."

Citing the board's work to bolster teacher training standards and improve programs in California's schools,

Brown urged all Californians to work together to find ways to better the programs.

He indicated he thought the differences between Braden, 45-year-old Oceanside newspaper publisher, and Max Rafferty had been over-emphasized.

Rafferty, state superintendent of public instruction, and Braden have differed over a plan for multiple adoption of elementary school textbooks.

But the governor said there were more areas of agreement than disagreement.

"California education is magnificent and all this business back and forth is tragic," he said.